

Florence, New Jersey
February 15, 2017

The Florence Township Council held a regular meeting on the above date in the Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Lovenduski at 8:00 PM. Taylor Dembowski, a local Girl Scout, led the Salute to the Flag.

The Opening Statement was read by the Acting Township Clerk: Notice was sent to the Trenton Times for information; posted on the municipal bulletin board; placed on the web-site on January 5th, 2017; and advertised in the Burlington Co. Times on January 8th, 2017.

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Paul Ostrander, Jerry Sandusky, David Woolston, Ted Lovenduski

Also present: Mayor Craig H. Wilkie; Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas A. Sahol, Assistant Township Administrator, Kelly Grant, Esq., Township Attorney; Nancy L. Erlston, Acting Township Clerk

MINUTES

Baldorossi made a MOTION; seconded by Sandusky to approve the following minutes. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

- Township Council Regular Session – December 21, 2016 and January 4, 2017
- Township Council Closed Session – February 1, 2017

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was the MOTION of Woolston; seconded by Sandusky to receive and file the Court Administrator's Report for January 2017, Tax Collector's Water & Sewer Report for January 2017 and Clerk's Report for January 2017. Roll call vote - all ayes. Unanimous approval.

It was on the MOTION of Ostrander; seconded by Woolston to approve the **Treasurer's Bill List**.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

A. TO: Mayor and Township Council
FROM: NJ ABC

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RE: Social Affair Permit, Francis W. Robbins Post 194 American Legion,
March 3, 2017, 7:00pm – 1:00am

It was the Motion of Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to receive and file Correspondence A. All ayes.

APPLICATIONS

- A. Florence Township Civic Association to Benefit the Florence Twp. Baseball Association
Off-Premise 50/50, May 27, 2017, 12:30pm at Coates Field
On-Premise 50/50, April 29, 2017, 6:00pm – 12:00am,
Florence Township Community Center, Main Street, Roebling
On-Premise Merchandise Raffle, April 29, 2017, 6:00pm – 12:00am
Florence Township Community Center, Main Street, Roebling

It was the Motion of Baldorossi, seconded by Sandusky to approve the applications.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council President Lovenduski opened the meeting to the public at this time. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was the Motion of Woolston, seconded by Ostrander to close the public portion of the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-58
Deny Release of Water Distribution & Sanitary Sewer
Maintenance Bonds
NFI Real Estate, Phase I

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-59
Approve Final Payment Request No. 3
Boulevard Phase II Project
Richard T. Barrett Paving Company, Inc.
Note: Conditioned Upon Posting a One Year Maintenance Bond

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-60
Authorizing Contract for a Financial Advisor
Phoenix Advisors, LLC
5 Third Street
Bordentown, NJ 08505

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RESOLUTION NO. 2017-61

**Authorize the Township Administrator and
Township Clerk to Seek Proposals for Architectural Services
for Expansion of the Municipal Building**

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-62

A Resolution Authorizing Electronic Tax Sale

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-63

**Authorizing Alternate Municipal Contact for Employment
Liability Matters Under the Burlington County Municipal
Joint Insurance Fund**

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-64

**Approve Payment No. 3 for Contract for the
Old York Road Shared Use Path – Phase II
to Richard T. Barrett Paving Company, Inc.
400 Prospect Street, Trenton, NJ 08618**

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-65

**Approve Request for Release of
Performance Bond for Phase III Water Distribution & Sanitary Sewer
and
Deny Request for Bond Release for Phase I Water Distribution &
Sanitary Sewer and Phase II Water Distribution
The Estates at Oak Mill**

Note: Release is Conditioned Upon Payment of Any and All Escrow Funds Due

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-66

**Authorize the Mayor to Sign the NJDEP Application for the
Florence Township Wastewater Treatment Plant
Regarding the Burlington County Resource Recovery Facility**

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-67

**Authorizing Professional Services Agreement with
Conflict/Special Projects Engineer**

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-68

**Authorize the Township Administrator to Sign the
NJDEP Bureau of Water System Engineering (BWSE)
Application for Water Treatment Plant Upgrades**

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It was the Motion of Ostrander and seconded by Sandusky to approve Resolution Nos. 2017-58 through 2017-68.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE 2017-02

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 15, LOT 3 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE FOR REMEDICATION OF BLIGHT AND FOR FUTURE REDEVELOPMENT PURPOSES (2nd Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption)

Assistant Administrator Sahol said this is a property on Iron Street that has fallen into such disrepair that it is truly a blight issue. It is a safety issue for the neighborhood. The municipality had the opportunity to work with the investment company who owns it to remove the structure. The goal in the future is to provide some type of redevelopment in the area. This is a good investment for the Township. It is a large piece of land. Once it is acquired the demolition will begin very quickly to remove the hazard.

Council President Lovenduski opened the meeting to the public regarding Ordinance No. 2017-02. Seeing no one wishing to be heard it was the Motion of Sandusky, seconded by Ostrander to close the public hearing. All ayes.

It was the Motion of Sandusky, seconded by Ostrander to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-02.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

PRESENTATION

Taylor Dembowski approached the Mayor and Council. She explained she is an Ambassador Girl Scout in Troop 25136. She thanked them for taking the time to let her speak to them. She wanted to discuss her Girl Scout Gold Award project. It is called Operation Free Hot Meal. For information, the Gold Award is the highest achievement a Girl Scout can achieve. It is the equivalent to the Eagle Scout Award for Boy Scouts. The Gold Award requires eighty hours of service to the project. There are seven steps that need to be completed for a successful project to earn the award.

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The first step is to identify a community issue you care about. She chose the issue of hunger in the community. She chose this because she grew up with many friends who were in low-income families and it was hard for them. It is also a big issue in this community and the world.

The second step is to investigate the issue thoroughly. She read an article from December 2016 that included statistics. In America one out of every seven people go to bed hungry. Fifteen million U.S. households at some point last year didn't have enough food. In Florence there are approximately four hundred twenty people/families who visit one of the five food banks located in the Township. That is three percent of the community.

The third step for the Gold Award project is to build a team. There must be a Girl Scout Advisor and a Project Advisor. A big help for her project was the United Methodist Church. They allowed her to hold her community dinners there. They allowed her to use the space and equipment there to be able to do her project.

Ms. Dembowski said she contacted the local food banks to get the statistics and find out what they provide to their customers. She asked the National Honor Society at the high school to help serve the food and help with set up and clean up. There were five people who helped her and they were amazing.

She also asked her Girl Scout Service Unit to help out. They created a recipe booklet. She provided a copy to Council. The recipes are under five dollars so people with lower incomes can enjoy a nice meal that is affordable. She sold ads and made placemats featuring the businesses that donated.

The first dinner was a pasta dinner. She held it in February. The meal was free, but monetary donations and canned goods were accepted. It will be divided among the local food banks. The monetary donations will be used for the next free dinner. She spoke to the students at her high school and to the Girl Scouts in her Service Unit.

The fifth step of the Gold Award is to take action. That is the main part of the Gold Award. The last dinner was February 28th and the next one will be held on March 4th. That is going to be a ham dinner. There will also be mac n' cheese and salad.

The sixth step for the Gold Award is to educate and inspire those around you. It is important to make others aware of a problem and show them how they can help to fix it. She showed an example of a survey that she distributed. The results of the survey were that people wanted this program in the community because it helped them.

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One woman told her that her son really enjoyed the meal and he hadn't had a real meal in a very long time. She made the meal for one hundred people and the cost was only \$1.30 per person.

The last step for the Girl Scout Gold Award is proving sustainability. For the project to be successful it must be sustainable. She will be putting a booklet together and providing it to the National Honor Society and the Interact Club to somehow continue it as a fundraiser or a way to help the community. She was hoping that the Township would be able to continue it since it helps a large number of residents.

Council President Lovenduski said it sounds like a fantastic idea. It is nice see people helping others that are not as advantaged and it helps the community. It's nice to see young people get out and do something rather than just sit and watch it happen.

Councilman Ostrander said he really liked the recipe book and he would to see more of them published. There were a lot of good recipes provided. Councilman Sandusky said this was close to his heart. Council just went through a budget meeting, and he would like to see if the Township could donate \$100 for the next dinner. He suggested she have a pasta dinner open to the public with a fee to raise money for another free dinner and perhaps keep doing that to be able to keep having the free dinner. Council thanked her for the presentation.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers:

Administration

Mayor

Mayor Wilkie said this evening Council approved a resolution to go out for architectural services. For the public's information, this building is celebrating its thirty fifth year, in 1982 the requirements for the courtroom and police department were much different that they are now. The Township would like to bring in an architect to see what options are available. There were plans drawn in 2008 for an expansion off the back of the building. He wanted the public to know what was going on.

The 2017 Budget will be introduced on March 1st. There was a workshop session earlier this evening. He was glad to say the rate will remain the same. He is also happy to say the Water & Sewer rates will remain the same. There are increases in services and the Township continues to keep things balanced.

The March 1st Council Meeting is the only meeting in March. Council has a work session off-site in March. He wanted to remind everyone the Fire District Elections are being held Saturday from 2pm – 9pm at the firehouse on Firehouse Lane.

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He noted Baseball and Softball are having an event on Thursday, June 29th at 7:00pm at the Trenton Thunder baseball game. There is a flier and it is also on Facebook. Tickets are \$11.

Administrator Brook said it is a great concept that two recreation groups are working together. He gave credit to the commissioners of the two groups.

Mayor Wilkie said Council has agreed to make a donation for Basket Bonanza. There will be a certificate for free recreation registrations for a year.

Assistant Municipal Administrator

Assistant Administrator Sahol provided a letter in the packet regarding the train horns. He learned the Township does not have jurisdiction because it is a County road. Mayor Wilkie explained there are some residents who live by Delaware Avenue where the tracks are and they are complaining about the horns and asked that it be silenced.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said he had provided a memo regarding a meeting he had with Tom Layou and James Kohl of the Construction Department. Mr. Kohl said there have been some changes in technology regarding solar. The Township needs some clarification to its code to make sure it doesn't charge more than it should for permits. He hopes to have something for introduction in March.

Mayor Wilkie said Assistant Administrator Sahol circulated a drawing showing parking at the Marconi Lodge site. It would be angled parking. Assistant Administrator Sahol said the Township will be focusing on the area to create some sort of green space. He would also like to see work begin on the community garden where the building was located.

Public Comments: Open to the Public

Council President Lovenduski opened the meeting to the public.

Don Kamienski, 10 McCay Drive, asked Ms. Dembowski how he could get a copy of her recipe book. He wanted to know when the next pasta dinner would be held. Ms. Dembowski said the next dinner is a ham dinner being held March 4th and the recipe book will be available there.

Mr. Kamienski asked if she had thought of putting the information on the Township website. Mayor Wilkie said it would be put on the website and on Channel 19.

Kimberly Dembowski, Taylor's mother, said she has been working with the Recreation Coordinator to get a link on the Township website to the Girl Scout unit page.

Chris Musso, 418 Arnold Drive, heard that the tax rate is remaining the same. He said congratulations, no one ever says thank you so he wanted to be the first. People usually just come to complain. He said the Mayor and Council did a good job.

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It was the Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Woolston to close the public comments. All ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

8:25 PM MOTION of Woolston; seconded by Sandusky to adjourn. Roll call vote – all ayes.
Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Erlston
Acting Township Clerk
/aek